Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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FOR

CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) **TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

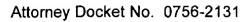
Application Number	09/535,015			
Filing Date	March 24, 2000			
First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.			
Group Art Unit	2811			
Examiner Name	S. Crane			
Attorney Docket Number	0756-2131			

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

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	a.	Ш	_	ously submitted							
		i.	Ц	Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).							
		ii.		Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on							
		iii,		Other							
	b.	X	Encl	sed							
		i.	X	Amendment/Reply							
		ii.		Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)			C 65 27				
		iii.		Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)				4			
		iv.	X	Other: Petition for Extension of Time				DE C	1		
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				SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, A	TTORNEY,	OR AGENT REQUIRED	 				
I	Name	(Prin	ıt/Typ	Eric J. Robinson	Registrati	on No. (Attorney/Agent)	38,285				
	Signa	ture		5:00.	Date	12-15-03					
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION											
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12/18/2003 AWONDAF1 00000019 09535015





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	Group Art Unit: 2811		
Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.)	Examiner: S. Crane		
Serial No. 09/535,015)	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is		
Filed: March 24, 2000		being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class		
For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A)	Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,		
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE)	Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on _/2./5.03		
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated November 17, 2003, please consider the following amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.

DEC 19 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800